

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for increasing circulation in an equine neck, the apparatus comprising:
 - a head portion having a shape substantially conforming to an equine head;
 - a neck portion coupled to the head portion, the neck portion defining a perimeter to run along at least a bottom two of an equine's neck vertebrae (C6 and C7) and a volume substantially conforming to an equine neck; and
 - at least one magnetic strip coupled to the neck portion, wherein the magnetic strip creates a magnetic field.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the head portion defines a muzzle opening; a pair of eye openings and a pair of ear openings.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip comprises at least one flexible magnetic strip having a longitudinal axis to be disposed parallel to a horse's cervical vertebrae to create a magnetic field radiating from the magnetic strip towards one of a horse cervical vertebrae, a horse axis, a horse atlas, and a horse poll.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip comprises two flexible magnetic strips, each of the two strips detachably coupled to a side of the neck portion to create a magnetic field radiating from the magnetic strip toward the volume.
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein each of the two magnetic strips is detachably coupled to the neck portion to having a longitudinal axis to be disposed parallel to a longitudinal axis of and to be proximate to either side of a cervical vertebrae of the equine neck when the apparatus is in use.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the neck portion comprises two side walls to surround the equine neck, wherein each side wall contains at least one flexible magnetic material strip to create a magnetic field radiating from the at least one flexible magnetic material strip toward the volume.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an atlas, axis, and cervical vertebrae magnetic strip detachably coupled to both an atlas position pad and axis position pad of the neck portion to create a magnetic field radiating from the atlas, axis, and cervical vertebrae magnetic strip toward a region of the volume to be occupied by an equine atlas, axis, and cervical vertebrae.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least one atlas, axis, and cervical vertebrae magnetic strip comprises a magnetic material that creates a bipolar magnetic field.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least one atlas, axis, and cervical vertebrae magnetic strip comprises a flexible magnetic material and is adapted to be detachably attached to a dorsal position of the apparatus along a central line of the neck portion proximate to the head portion.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the magnetic field created is a bipolar magnetic field.
11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip comprises a flexible magnetic material having a plurality of magnetic fields arranged such that pairs of adjacent magnetic fields have a bipolar magnetic arrangement.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip comprises a magnetic material that creates a unipolar magnetic field.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip has a magnetic field strength in the range of 50 gauss to 1000 gauss.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip comprises two flexible magnetic material strips that create a bipolar magnetic field having a magnetic field strength on the order of 450 gauss, and
wherein each flexible magnetic material strip is about 25.5" by 5" and has one of a hook material backing and a loop material backing for detachably coupling to one of a loop material receive and a hook material receive on the neck portion.
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic strip comprises one of a magnetic paste and a magnetic plastic.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the head portion includes at least one fastener to detachably secure the head portion to an equine head.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the neck portion includes at least one fastener to detachably secure the neck portion to an equine neck.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

at least one head portion fastener to secure the head portion to an equine head, each head portion fastener comprising at least one attachment strap having a first end coupled to a first side wall of the head portion such that each head portion fastener may extend under a bottom of the equine head to detachably couple to second side wall of the head portion; and

at least one neck portion fastener to secure the neck portion to an equine neck, each neck portion fastener comprising at least one attachment strap having a first end coupled to a first side wall of the neck portion such that each head portion fastener may extend under a bottom of the equine neck to detachably couple to second side wall of the neck portion.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for increasing circulation in an equine neck and back, the apparatus comprising:

a head portion substantially conforming to an equine head and defining a pair of eye openings and a pair of ear openings;

a neck portion having a neck portion distal end coupled to the head portion, the neck portion defining a volume substantially conforming to an equine neck; and

at least one magnetic material strip detachably coupled to the neck portion at a position to be parallel to and along a longitudinal axis of a plurality of an equine's neck vertebrae, each of the at least one magnetic material strips creating a magnetic field radiating from the at least one magnetic material strip towards the volume; and

a body portion coupled to a proximate end of the neck portion, the body portion defining a volume substantially conforming to an equine body midsection; and

at least one magnetic strip coupled to the body portion, wherein the magnetic strip creates a magnetic field.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the body portion coupling to the proximate end of the neck portion comprises one of a permanent attachment and a detachable coupling.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for increasing circulation in an equine neck, the apparatus comprising:

a head portion substantially conforming to an equine head and defining a muzzle opening, a pair of eye openings and a pair of ear openings;

a neck portion coupled to the head portion, the neck portion encompassing a horse's entire cervical vertebrae and defining a volume substantially conforming to an equine neck; and

two magnetic strips each approximately 25.5" by 5" detachably coupled to the neck portion, wherein each magnetic strip comprises:

a magnetic material that creates a bipolar magnetic field having a strength of approximately 450 gauss and radiating from the magnetic material towards the equine neck;
a backing material of either a hook material or a loop material to detachably couple each strip to an interior wall of the neck portion.